

Commercial Truck Driver Protest - Operational Impacts - Situational Report - February 3, 2022

From: Irrelevant
To:
Date: Thu, 03 Feb 2022 21:09:03 +0000

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<i>Situational Report</i>
Commercial Truck Driver Protest Operational Impacts
February 3, 2022 – 16:00

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Background

On January 15, 2022, an Order of Council (OIC) was put in-place to mandate vaccinations for commercial truck drivers crossing the border. As a result, commercial truck drivers around the country have organized and started protesting outside port of entries (POEs) by blocking roads and slowing traffic, along with a convoy of commercial vehicles headed towards Ottawa to protest outside Parliament.

Bottom Line:

- ~ On February 3, 2022 as of 12:10hrs MT, at Coutts, north and south bound traffic is flowing with one lane open in each direction and gates are open. US CBP is maintaining a checkpoint to meter traffic to proceed to the Primary Inspection Line.
- ~ RCMP will not be escorting vehicles and delays are expected.
- ~ CBSA will monitor port hours at surrounding POEs depending on traffic volumes, as it may lead to increased border wait times at Coutts. ~
- ~ The highway north of the port of Coutts the RCMP are not in complete control over the highway and protestors are lining the shoulder in each direction. No significant issues have been reported of employees reporting to and from work. Evening shift and management have arrived safely at the POE.
- ~ The RCMP continue to negotiate with the protest organizers that remain in the vicinity of the CBSA POE at Coutts, AB, which has resulted in the highway north of the Coutts POE being partially open with one northbound and one southbound lane available.
- ~ Protestors established a new blockade at the Coutts POE.
- ~ Border processing and pilot escort did not commence due to delays with on-going protestor activities along Highway #4 at Coutts, with further attempts to be made later today.
- ~ Social media postings have indicated that additional convoy protests are planned in the coming days (see new section below)
- ~ The Prairie Region has been advised by the RCMP that due to the lack of availability of Canadian-based towing operators (due to intimidation and 'doxing' of towing operators by protestors on social media), that a request to grant the entry of US-based towing operators and exempt the drivers from the work permit requirement (emergency services).

- Del Bonita and Carway POEs are open until 22:00hrs MT, this evening.
- The [GoFundMe](#) supporting the convoy protest has reached \$10,096,400 and has been paused for review by the GoFundMe organization.
- Remaining protest activity nationally is not impacting POE operations.



US Protestors Identified at Port of Entries

- Reports received from CBSA POEs regarding Enhanced Vigilance Exams of potential protestors:

POE	Vehicle #	Enhanced vigilance exams (PAX #)	Direct Back	Allowed to Leave	Granted Entry	Comments
Pac Hwy Traffic, PAC	2	3	3	0	~	Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Douglas, PAC	10	21	18	3	~	Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Lansdowne, NOR	1	2	~	~	2	Journalists looking to document the protests in Ottawa. Provided necessary credentials and had equipment consistent with their stated purpose of travel.
Total	13	26	21	3	~ 2	~

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Atlantic Region

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No updates to report

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Quebec Region

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No updates to report

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Northern Ontario Region

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No updates to report

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Southern Ontario Region

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Ambassador Bridge

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No updates to report

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Blue Water Bridge

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- February 3, 2022 – As of 12:08hrs ET, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) indicate that a potential protest may occur at the Blue Water Bridge POE today in support of the on-going trucker protests.

It is expected that 50 to 80 trucks will be present and that the protest will be peaceful in nature. The POE does not anticipate any operational impact. The OPP will be on site to monitor. The following route has been provided:

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Gather at Reese's Corners for noon.
Travel from there via London Line.
Merge onto Exmouth Street.
Turn on to Front Street.
Turn on to Michigan Ave.
Turn on to Venetian Blvd.
Turn on to Exmouth.
Turn on Front.
Repeat

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Windsor-Detroit Tunnel

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February 3, 2022 – As of 08:43hrs ET, an unconfirmed social media post indicates that there will be slow roll protest from February 4 to February 6, 2022, with a potential blockade at the border beginning Monday, February 7, 2022. IEOD is engaged and monitoring the situation.

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Prairie Region

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Commercial Traffic Volumes

# Passages (Persons)	This Week					Last Week				
	2022-01-29	2022-01-30	2022-01-31	2022-02-01	2022-02-02	2022-01-22	2022-01-23	2022-01-24	2022-01-25	2022-01-26
Coutts Travellers	202	22	20	11	9	234	253	188	251	177
Coutts Commercial*	262	23	0	0	0	397	372	361	349	479
Del Bonita	0	0	186	225	173	0	0	43	8	19
Carway	35	211	127	132	97	47	78	29	21	24
Aden	3	32	11	17	8	1	0	0	1	2
Other Commercial POEs										
Regway	39	78	66	117	85	41	30	57	40	46
Rooseville	99	271	223	167	169	72	150	105	70	143
North Portal Travellers	73	83	72	69	53	43	35	74	59	48
North Portal Commercial	334	280	223	268	458	335	258	205	290	316

The CBSA will be temporarily expanding hours of service at two POEs in Alberta due to the ongoing protest and blockade in the immediate vicinity of the CBSA POE at Coutts, Alberta. This short-term measure will allow the CBSA to alleviate impacts to travellers that are unable to access CBSA services at the Coutts, Alberta POE, while the protest activity is underway. US CBP have been consulted and have agreed to extend their hours of service to match CBSA's temporary extension effective today.

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The two land POEs are located adjacent to the Coutts, AB POE and are designated under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) regulations to provide immigration services.

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- 1.~ [Carway, Alberta](#) – currently scheduled from 08:00 to 18:00 hours MT, temporary expansion to 08:00 to 22:00 hours MT;
- 2.~ [Del Bonita, Alberta](#) – currently scheduled from 09:00 to 17:00 hours MT, temporary expansion to 24/7 service.

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Traders and commercial carriers will continue to be advised that three adjacent commercial ports of entry remain available at Regway SK, North Portal, SK and Roosevelt, BC.

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The CBSA will closely monitor volumes and will assess the continued requirement for revised hours of operation at the two POEs. The CBSA will return to the previous hours of operation at these sites when rerouted traffic destined to Coutts, AB has subsided.

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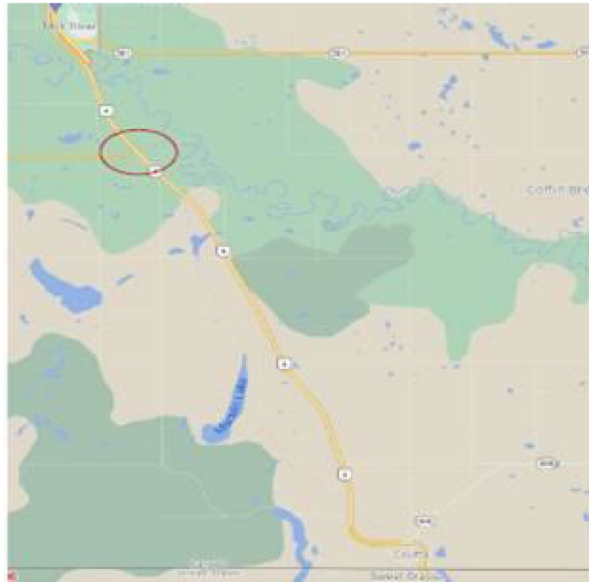
Coutts:

- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 13:42hrs MT, Global media was observed on site at POE Coutts, in the export lane recording footage of vehicles traveling northbound through the CBSA primary inspection lane. Media was engaged by the on site Superintendent and Chief and they agreed to leave the CBSA property. Interaction was courteous and polite.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 12:10hrs MT, the gates to POE Coutts were opened and began receiving traffic from the US. There are currently three vehicles visible in queue. All evening shift officers and managers have arrived at the POE without incident. Event continues to be monitored by onsite management team.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 11:40hrs MT, north and south bound traffic is flowing and gates will be opened. CBSA processing will begin immediately by metering the northbound traffic on US side to proceed to the Primary Inspection Line. US CBP will maintain a checkpoint to meter traffic and will re-assess as traffic line-ups decrease and/or once its confirmed that traffic is moving freely. RCMP will not be escorting vehicle northbound as previously indicated. Delays are expected and CBSA will continue to monitor port hours at surrounding POE's depending on how/if traffic volumes build, as this may create a significant border wait times at Coutts. RCMP is confident that progress can be maintained. CBSA Communications has been engaged.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 10:30 MT, while Coutts POE remains open, the gates are closed and there is no CBSA processing. North and southbound lanes on Hwy 4 continue to be blocked. Currently, there are no significant impacts to operations. The CBSA will continue to assess the need to move to 24/7 at Del Bonita, this will be based on whether traffic starts to move in Coutts today.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 10:30 MT, social media reports of "Operation Bear Hug" – another protest group – who we believe will be setting up on the highway to Del Bonita this afternoon. The intention is not to block roads completely, just 1 lane on a 2 or more lane highway around AB, SK and BC, with the potential for additional locations.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 10:30 MT, there are two main protest groups set up – the Coutts group which is the initial group closest to the port, and a secondary group at the **Check Point set up at Hwy 4 and 10 (See map below)**. The Coutts group is unhappy with the actions of the CP 10 group, fearing they are going to interfere with the progress being made with the negotiators.
- ~ February 3, 2022 as of 08:30hrs MT, the highway north of the port of Coutts is partially open with one southbound and one northbound lane open. The RCMP are not in complete control over the highway and protestors are lining the shoulder in each direction, RCMP have asked that the gates at the port remain closed to traffic for public safety considerations There are currently there 0 cars in line as travellers and traders are making use of adjacent POEs in the vicinity of the Coutts POE. No significant issues have been reported of employees reporting to and from work.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 07:00hrs MT, no northbound processing occurred overnight.
- ~ February 3, 2022 – As of 04:49hrs MT, the event continues to be monitored. Due to on-going protestor activities along Highway #4, border processing and pilot escort have been delayed until

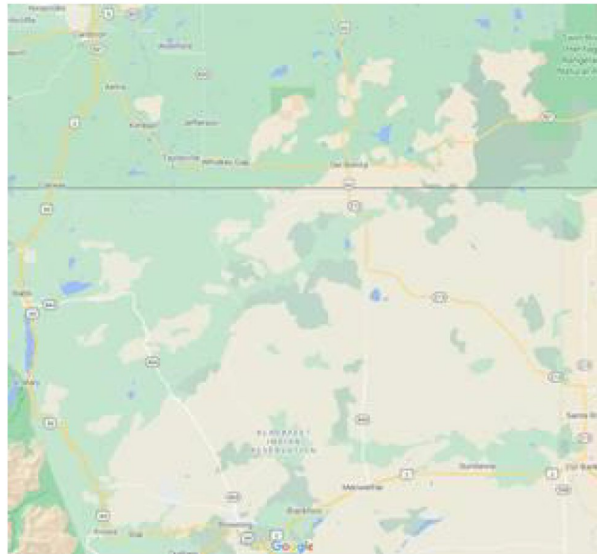
later today. There are currently no cars in line at the Coutts POE. The Del Bonita and Carway remain open until 22:00hrs MT this evening. The event continues to be monitored and preparations are ongoing in anticipation of higher volumes upon highway re-opening.

- February 2, 2022 – As of 22:18hrs MT, RCMP advised the pilot escort would move forward, however there were no vehicles waiting northbound (on US side), if one arrives, CBSA will seek to process and RCMP will escort through protest.
- February 2, 2022 – As of 21:16hrs MT, protestors had established a new blockade. It was not clear if this blockade was to remain for any length of time and whether they will allow some traffic to clear or not. RCMP resources were deployed to address.
- February 2, 2022 – As of 18:00hrs MT, The RCMP continue to negotiate with the protest organizers that remain in the vicinity of the POE. As a result of the negotiations, the highway north of the Coutts POE is partially open with one northbound and one southbound lane available.

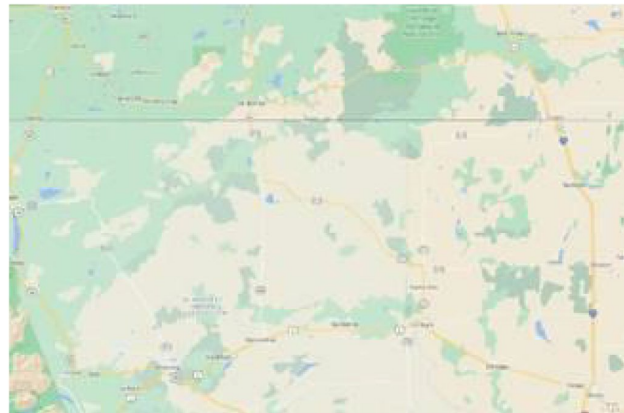
Check Point set up at Hwy 4 and 10 north of Coutts Port of Entry



Del Bonita & Carway Port of Entry Locations



Roadways south that connect Del Bonita, Coutts and Carway



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Carway

No updates to report

Emerson

*~ February 2, 2022 – As of 21:06hrs CT, there is no protest convoy presence observed at the POE since late this afternoon. It appears that the convoy has temporarily shut down. Southbound traffic is still backed up. Northbound traffic moving freely. The organizer's Facebook page indicates a plan for the protest to take tomorrow off and move the event to Winnipeg (Manitoba Legislature) on Friday. No operational impacts were reported.

- February 2, 2022 – As of 18:02hrs CT, there are only a few vehicles remaining in the protest. There is a line up southbound, but the icy road condition and a highway closure may be the cause. No operational impacts were reported.

North Portal

No updates to report

Pacific Region

No updates to report

Upcoming Events

Canada

- Sarnia – Blue Water Bridge, February 3, 2022, potential Freedom Convoy protest (Unconfirmed)
- Del Bonita – February 3, 2022, potential protest with intentions to block one lane (Unconfirmed)
- Carway - February 3, 2022, slow roll from Cardston to Carway at 12:00hrs MT to 14:00hrs MT (Unconfirmed)
- Ottawa – February 3, 2022, 2 planned demonstrations (300 people) on Parliament Hill (Unconfirmed)
- Ottawa – February 4 and 5 additional protesters to arrive on Parliament Hill (Unconfirmed)
- Ottawa - February 5, 2022, 3 counter protests outside Ottawa Police HQ, Elgin Street (Confirmed)
- Across Canada - Mariners for Freedom February 4, 2022 at 13:00hrs local time (Unconfirmed)
- Windsor - Slow Roll February 4 to 6, 2022 (Unconfirmed)
- Toronto – February 5, 2022, Freedom Convoy protest (Unconfirmed)
- Vancouver – February 5, 2022, Freedom Convoy Protest (Unconfirmed)
- Quebec City – February 5, 2022, Freedom Convoy protest (Unconfirmed)

United States

- Washington, US Capital - February 8 and 9, 2022, US Freedom Convoy (Unconfirmed)

Europe

- Brussels - Freedom Convoy Europe 2022 (Unconfirmed)

Intelligence and Enforcement

Intelligence Landscape (Updates in red)

BLUF: February 3, 2022 – As of 13:30hrs ET, the overall threat to CBSA officers and infrastructure is low.

ANALYSIS:

General Threats

- According to the RCMP, no formal organized plot of violence has been identified. Factors such as the circulation of misinformation, exhaustion, substance abuse, altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers may impact the temperature of the crowd. The potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted. No change to posture.
- According to Romana Didulo's schedule posted to Telegram and Twitter, Didulo is expected to be in Ottawa on February 3rd. Didulo will also "address the Nation" at 1330hrs on Feb 3rd. and will be attending the "Raising of the Kingdom of Canada Flag" at 1500hrs. No additional details or

locations were identified at this time. Didulo is a QAnon online influencer with an estimated 73,000 followers in Canada and the US. Over the last 1.5 years Didulo has issued a series of anti-vaccination messages to her growing number of followers. Following her instructions some of her followers in both Canada and the US have been delivering fake "Cease and Desist" orders to government, law enforcement, health and education officials that they believe are involved in administering or enforcing COVID vaccinations or government mandated health restrictions. On November 10, 2021 an individual identified as **Personal Info.** hand delivered a fake "Cease and Desist" order to the BSOs working at the Carson POE in PAC region. "Cease and Desist" orders were also delivered in 2021 to the Carson, Cascade, Paterson, Waneta, Nelway, Rykerts, & Kingsgate POEs. Didulo refers to her armed followers as "Duck Hunters" and has previously urged her followers to kill individuals involved in administering the COVID vaccination program and also any individuals who enforce government mandated COVID restrictions or requirements for vaccination.

- There is currently no confirmed end time for the demonstrations. Ottawa police say they expect an increase in vehicular traffic this weekend, police intelligence is showing many groups who plan to come to the city to support the truck protest. **Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have confirmed two convoys coming this weekend from the East, and one coming from Kingston.** Police are also expecting counter protests. This continues to a potential threat to the CBSA NHQ building, located four blocks south of the Parliament Hill.

POE Threats

- An ongoing analysis of SRT reporting, OSINT, **s.38** indicates that there are no credible threats currently identified for any POE.
- The protest at Coutts persists. The RCMP managed to negotiate a partial lifting of the Canada – U.S. border blockade at Coutts, Alberta Wednesday night, with many of the protesters remaining in the area, but moving their vehicles to the side of the highway. After that partial reopening, however, a second blockade was set up 18 kilometres to the north near Milk River. "The RCMP have made some progress to re-open Hwy 4 from Milk River to the border. Currently travel is impeded at the north part of Hwy 4 where motorists can expect an RCMP escort to the border," the Alberta RCMP said in a tweet. This activity is occurring north of the POE, but continues to present an increased threat to border service officers.
- CBSA has received information regarding a potential protest at Sarnia Bluewater bridge; POE does not anticipate any operational impact at this time. Info received from OPP that local commercial drivers are planning a protest / rally at Bluewater bridge today; in support of the on-going trucker protests. OPP expects 50-80 trucks; organizers have stated the protest will be peaceful in nature. OPP will be on-site to monitor.
- A Toronto group aligning itself with Freedom Convoy 2022 protesters in Ottawa is circulating flyers on social media calling for a protest against COVID-19 restrictions and mandates at Toronto's Queen Park on Saturday, Feb. 5. There is no indication, at this time, that this planned protest will be directed to either of Toronto's major airports.
- Despite teepees being erected in Confederation Park and protesters carrying Warrior Flags in Ottawa, there has been no protest observed at POE by Indigenous groups. A joint press release by Grand Chief MCGREGOR (Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation), Chief WHITEDUCK (Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg) and Chief JACKO (Pikwakanagan FN) was circulated on Twitter and cc'd Mayor Watson, NCC CEO Nussbaum, Ottawa Police, Parliamentary Protective Service, Algonquin Anishinabeg Chiefs and National Chief Roseanne ARCHIBALD. (1) "The Algonquins of the Unceded Territory claimed by Pikwakanagan and Kitigan Zibi (Ottawa and the Parliamentary Precinct) do not support the Freedom Convoy 2022."
- **No Update.** In addition to the event in Ottawa, a Mariners for Freedom vessel parade is being planned across Canada, reportedly aiming to "protest in ports and all over Canadian shipping lanes." The movement's Facebook page had gained over 7,000 members by 01 Feb, and an additional 5,000 members in the past 12 hours. The event is planned for 04 Feb at 13:00 local time at participant ports. While disruptive activity is not being considered for 04 Feb, consideration is being given to disrupting commercial marine transportation in future events should demands not be met.

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Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE)

- ~ According to the RCMP, while chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest continues to circulate, concerns exist that protest events associated with the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety. While IMVE persons of interest and indicators have been observed in Ottawa, this has not been observed at POE protests.

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Other Threats

- ~ According to social media, the Ottawa Police Chief says that there is funding from the US as well as Canada fueling the protests. He is quoting national security sources who raise concerns about foreign funding as well. The media is also stating that the GoFundMe account for Freedom Convoy has been suspended pending further review. The CBSA has not yet seen any indication of foreign funding or HASA activity connected to this fund raising, but given the large amount of anonymous donors it cannot be disregarded.
- ~ **Ongoing threat.** The size, unorganized potential and general distraction of some these POE protests continue to create conditions where both criminal actors and migrants may use the events to illegally cross the border into Canada. This may also include protesters who wish to join events on the Canadian side of the border, but do not want to report to Border Service Officers.
- ~ Media is reporting that Industry continues to warn that the blockade in Coutts threatens supply chain to the US. In particular, Canadian beef production relies on key border points, like Coutts, to move critical food supply chain elements (everything from animal feed through to the transport of cattle). The continued blockage of Coutts may quickly become a threat to various commercial, trade, labour and immigration (temporary foreign workers in the Prairies) sectors.
- ~ **US news sites are reporting that Facebook has removed the Facebook pages associated to "Convoy to D.C. 2022" being used to organize truckers to drive from California to Washington D.C. There is no information available at this time to indicate if Facebook has removed the pages for the other planned US-based protest convoys originating in Texas and Florida.** Social media and news websites in the US indicate that there is an online movement, focused on Facebook pages entitled "Freedom Convoy 2022", to organize protest convoys of US truckers from Texas and Florida which would converge on Washington D.C. with tentative planned arrival time in D.C. of February 8th. There is no reporting at this time to indicate that the proposed US convoys plan to enter Canada.

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Internal Taskforce

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No updates to report

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Communications

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- ~ **February 3, 2022 – As of 15:32hrs ET, Media reports that MPs vote to call GoFundMe to testify before Commons committee on convoy protest. [CBC News](#)**
- ~ **February 3, 2022- As of 09:31hrs ET, CBSA Communications has confirmed that they have responded to 1 media call asking about how much annual commercial traffic and imports come through the Coutts POE.**
- ~ **February 2, 2022 – As of 16:02hrs ET, CBSA Communications has confirmed that they have responded to 5 media calls from reporters looking for information on the "freedom blockade" at Coutts POE and alternate hours of service.**

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Other Governmental Departments

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February 3, 2022 – As of 11:04hrs ET, there are very few people on Parliament Hill, with approximately 200 to 300 people on Wellington and the streets surrounding Parliament Hill. The Ontario Provincial Police have confirmed that there will be 2 convoys destined for Ottawa this weekend from the East, and one coming from Kingston. There are 3 potential demonstrations being planned; 2 occurring today and one on February 5, 2022.

February 3, 2022 – As of 08:13hrs ET, the current status of the interprovincial bridges are as follows:

Macdonald-Cartier bridge is open;

Alexandra Bridge is open southbound from 06:00hrs ET to 10:00hrs ET, until February 4, 2022; Northbound is closed;

Portage Bridge is closed southbound;

Chaudière Bridge is open;

Champlain Bridge is open.

February 2, 2022 - As of 17:00hrs ET, Approximately 10 people currently on Parliament Hill, 30 to 40 people are on Wellington and surrounding streets and 30 people in Confederation Park. Additionally, there are approximately 100 to 200 demonstrators in a parking lot near Chaudière Bridge and the counter protest on Metcalfe and Wellington is still ongoing and remaining peaceful.

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